Remarks

Abstract
An abstract has been added to overcome the objection.

Drawings
Formal drawings have been submitted to overcome the objections.

Specification Rejection
Examiner objects to lack of specification support for claims 15-17. Applicant respectfully

directs Examiner to page 5, fourth full paragraph, wherein the specification states a flowchart for

an algorithm that is implement in software. Thus, claims 15-17 are directed to a software

implementation that instructs a computer to perform the listed functions.

Claim Rejection

Applicant respectfully disagrees with Examiner's reasoning for claims 5 and 8. The cited art's

arbitration relies on timing information to determine the "oldest" bus with respect to time. In

contrast, the Applicant's arbitration depends on a losing bidder's range of accumulator values

that do NOT depend on timing status, but depend on the accumulator's standing within a range

based at least in part on the initial user-defined weight value and/or priority.

Applicant respectfully requests allowance for the pending claims.

CONCLUSION

Should it be determined that an additional fee is due under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17, or any excess fee has been received, please charge that fee or credit the amount of overcharge to deposit account #02-2666.

If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at (503) 439-8778. Reconsideration of this patent application and early allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _Aug 3, 2006_

Paul A. Mendonsa
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c/o Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman, LLP
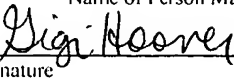12400 Wilshire Boulevard
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